UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/902
29 September 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 28 SEPTEMBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SOUTH AFRICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour in my capacity as Chairman of the Coordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, to forward a self-explanatory letter addressed to you by the Committee of Six established by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Movement at the Cartagena meeting held from 18 to 20 May 1998. As you may be aware, the Committee of Six is entrusted by the Movement with the follow-up in the dispute regarding the Lockerbie case.

I would be grateful if you could circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Khiphusizi J. JELE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

98-28577 (E) 290998

/...

Annex

Letter dated 22 September 1998 from the Committee of Six established by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries at the Cartagena meeting, held from 18 to 20 May 1998, addressed to the President of the Security Council

The Committee of Six, established by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries at its meeting held in Cartagena, from 18 to 20 May 1998, and entrusted with the follow-up in the dispute between Libya, the United States of America and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland over Lockerbie, wishes to express to you its deepest appreciation. The Committee refers to the recent developments in this dispute: the acceptance by the United States of America and the United Kingdom of the proposals submitted by regional and international organizations to hold a trial for the two suspects in a neutral country (the Netherlands) and refers also to the declarations of the twelfth summit of the States Members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 2 September 1998. The Committee of Six, having studied these recent developments during its meeting held in New York on 22 September 1998, stresses that it:

1. Commends the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for the flexibility it has demonstrated, as well as the civility and objectiveness that characterized its conduct in dealing with this dispute and its acceptance of the trial of its citizens in a third neutral country, and expresses its total shock at the enormous material and moral losses suffered by Libya as a result of the sanctions imposed upon it for that entire period;

2. Expresses its satisfaction with the recent acceptance by the United States and the United Kingdom of what has been proposed by the regional and international organizations four years ago, and regrets the delay of this acceptance for all this time;

3. Reconfirms its continued support of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya's position, which aims at ensuring a just and fair trial for the suspects, and calls upon the United States, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands to enter into direct negotiations with the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya or through the Secretary-General to implement the initiative referred to in Security Council resolution 1192 (1998) of 27 August 1998, including the arrangements for the trial and security guarantees relating to the suspects;

4. Affirms its total solidarity and support for the legitimate Libyan demands:

   (a) That an agreement be reached between all the parties guaranteeing no surrender, no transfer and no transport of the two suspects to either the United States or the United Kingdom for any reason

whatsoever. And, in case of their conviction, an agreement that they serve their term in either the Netherlands or Libya;

(b) That an agreement be reached by all parties on limiting, clarifying and specifying the witnesses needed from Libya;

(c) That an agreement be reached by all parties guaranteeing the right of the suspects - legal, religious, personal, social - during all the phases of the trial, as well as their safety and security during their travel to and from the Netherlands and during their stay there;

(d) That the beginning of the trial must be the end of this dispute, for Libya has already responded to all the demands of the Security Council. The sanctions should be lifted upon the appearance of the two suspects before the trial.

The Committee of Six, in submitting the above, calls upon the Security Council to take its substance into consideration when dealing with this issue.

We have the honour to request that the present letter be circulated and issued as a document of the Security Council.

For: Burkina Faso

For: Cuba

For: the Lao People's Democratic Republic

For: Malaysia

For: the Republic of South Africa

A. NZO

For: the Republic of Zimbabwe